

August 18, 2011

Mr. Merilee H. Dierckx
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

Comments on LightSquared Technical Working Group Report: ID Docket No. 11-109

Dear Mr. Dierckx:

I am writing in support of the FCC's stance in favor of finding a solution that will allow LightSquared and Global Positioning System networks to coexist for the benefit of the American people. Despite the heated rhetoric surrounding the proposed LightSquared system, it is clear that an engineering solution is within reach, given enough time and resources.

America's economy is at a crossroads. Without significant investment in education, infrastructure and technology, our nation is at risk of falling behind the fast-rising emerging economies of China, India and Brazil. Wireless broadband infrastructure is one of the keys to America's economic future. As FCC Chairman Genachowski has pointed out, America will need additional spectrum devoted to broadband or demand will outstrip supply in the near future.

LightSquared would help solve the problem – and without a penny of taxpayer investment. The company is ready and willing to construct a \$15 billion 4G-LTE network that would cover 260 million Americans – including many in areas that are currently unserved by broadband – and would greatly increase competition in wireless by providing next-generation spectrum on a wholesale basis to smaller companies who would not have the resources to construct their own networks.

GPS is an essential technology, and it is unfortunate that many GPS receivers agnost in adjoining spectrum which was never intended for or licensed to them. This is undoubtedly a problem, but it is a problem that must be resolved if America is to have sufficient broadband wireless capacity in the coming years – and if we are to compete in the global economy. The self-interested needs of the GPS corporations are not of paramount concern to the American people, nor should they be awarded exemption deference by the FCC.

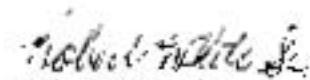
I thank you very much for your leadership in ensuring that the American people's resources are used for their benefit.

LightSquared would add a valuable asset to the nation's wireless broadband infrastructure, in two ways. First, it would be a brand new nationwide 4G-LTE network with a unique ability to reach rural areas thanks to its satellite component. Second, it would be the only national wireless broadband wholesaler, providing world-class spectrum to any number of smaller competitors at a reasonable price. For consumers of wireless broadband, this could be a home run in terms of choice, price and innovation.

Is it ideal to force GPS companies to upgrade their receivers? Perhaps not. But it is essential that LightSquared move forward, lest the country face a debilitating shortage of wireless broadband capacity in the near future. I am confident that the FCC can develop a process that will allow LightSquared to construct its network while setting a deadline for GPS companies to fix their equipment (which they should have done years ago).

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,


Robert White, Sr.